

**Authorizing The Formation Of The Ulster County Human Rights Task Force**

Referred to: The Laws and Rules, Governmental Services Committee (Chairman Roberts and Legislators Belfiglio, Donaldson, Lopez, Loughran, R. Parete and Rodriguez)

Chairman Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr. and Legislator Belfiglio offer the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature recognizes the importance of fair and equal treatment of all its residents regardless of race, color, religion, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, alienage or citizenship status, familial status, gender, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation or disability; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is desirous of adopting legislation which seeks to prohibit acts of discrimination, including discrimination in employment, discrimination in public accommodations, discrimination in housing accommodation, discrimination in commercial space and land transactions, and discrimination in the issuing of credit; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 412 of 2016, Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016 (A Local Law Establishing A Comprehensive Ulster County Human Rights Law) was introduced for consideration of the Ulster County Legislature in September, 2016; and

WHEREAS, after conducting public hearings and continuing deliberation and discussion, the members of the Legislature have reached an impasse on the content of Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016 as currently drafted; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature recognizes the value of input from community leaders and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § C-11. Powers and duties of Legislature, and § A2-5(11) of the Administrative Code, the Legislature is empowered “To conduct studies and investigations in furtherance of its legislative functions and, in connection therewith, to obtain and employ professional and technical advice, appoint citizens' committees, commissions and boards, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, and require the production of books, papers and other evidence deemed necessary or material to such studies or investigations”, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Human Rights Task Force is hereby created to review and make necessary revisions to Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016; and, be it further

**Resolution No. 371      September 19, 2017**

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RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Human Rights Task Force shall consist of eight (8) members, whose members shall serve without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses with appropriations made therefore, unless other provided by resolution of the County Legislature, pursuant to § C16 of the Ulster County Charter and § A2-11 of the Administrative Code; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the membership of the Ulster County Human Rights Task Force shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Legislature and shall include members as follows:

- One (1) representative of the LGBTQ community;
- One (1) representative from the NAACP;
- One (1) Legislator representing the Majority;
- One (1) Legislator representing the Minority;
- Two (2) representatives of Ulster County religious organizations; and
- Two (2) members of the Ulster County Human Rights Commission;

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the first meeting of the Ulster County Human Rights Task Force shall be swiftly convened by the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature and at said meeting, the members of the Task Force shall select one of its members to be the Chairman of the Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Human Rights Task Force shall file its recommended version of Proposed Local Law No. 16 of 2016 with the Clerk of the Legislature no later than November 29, 2017, at which time the Ulster County Human Rights Task Force shall be dissolved,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22                      NOES: 0  
(Absent: Legislator Fabiano)

